UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/241
1 November 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Forty-eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC REHABILITATION OF RWANDA

Letter dated 29 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of an additional item entitled "Emergency assistance for the socio-economic rehabilitation of Rwanda".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum setting forth the reasons why the Government of Rwanda considers that this question should be included in the agenda is attached to this request (see annex).

(Signed) Jean-Damascène BIZIMANA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Rwanda
to the United Nations

Annex

Explanatory memorandum

On 1 October 1990, a devastating war broke out in Rwanda following attacks launched from Uganda by the Rwandese Patriotic Front (RPF).

Since then, the country has suffered a great deal of material damage and many people have been killed. As a result, more than 900,000 displaced persons, constituting 13 per cent of the Rwandese population, have been left completely destitute, the socio-economic infrastructure has been destroyed and basic services have collapsed in the regions where the fighting took place.

With regard to the humanitarian situation, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs has taken commendable initiatives and in April 1993 launched a consolidated appeal for international assistance for those displaced by the war.

This interorganizational appeal has helped to improve the humanitarian situation in Rwanda.

Nevertheless, it should be noted that despite the progress made, the humanitarian problem is far from being solved and the current situation calls for an intensification of the activities undertaken to meet the immediate needs of the Rwandese population.

With regard to the economic situation, the war has destroyed a substantial quantity of socio-economic and administrative infrastructure, equipment and installations.

The economy of Rwanda, which during the 1980s, was already suffering severe perturbations that were aggravated by the uncertainties of the international economic situation, has now suffered further damage as a result of the war.

Concerned about the failure to control the increase in public expenditure and in the basic disequilibrium of the trade balance, combined with the very fragile structure of the production system, Rwanda began implementing in November 1990 a structural adjustment programme which had received large-scale support from all the donors and from the Bretton Woods institutions.

The macroeconomic and sectoral objectives of that programme were not achieved, however, because its implementation coincided with the outbreak of the war.

Mindful of the urgent need to put an end to this devastating war, the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front undertook direct negotiations with the assistance of friendly countries, the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations.

In the same context, the Security Council was seized of the question of the situation concerning Rwanda and its consideration of that question led to the adoption of resolutions 812 (1993) of 12 March 1993 and 846 (1993) of

22 June 1993, which created an impetus favourable to the progress and outcome of the negotiations.

The signing of the Arusha Peace Agreement in the United Republic of Tanzania on 4 August 1993 opened the way to a new era of peace and national reconciliation that will make it possible for the Rwandese people to work for the reconstruction and development of their homeland.

This event also opens a path towards the strengthening of peace in Rwanda, which should include the establishment of a programme to help the country to resettle people displaced by the war, repatriate refugees and successfully demobilize and reintegrate into social and economic life the military personnel who are not retained in the new national army.

In view of the scope of the tasks associated with the implementation of the Peace Agreement, Security Council resolution 872 (1993), adopted on 5 October 1993, urges "Member States, United Nations specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to provide and intensify their economic, financial and humanitarian assistance in favour of the Rwandese population and of the democratization process in Rwanda".

Since the war has jeopardized all economic development efforts and has led to the disintegration of key sectors of the national infrastructure, action by the international community is necessary in order to ensure a firmer commitment to contribute to the economic and social rehabilitation of Rwanda, especially as the new situation requires the application of substantial resources which exceed the real capabilities of the country.

The assistance requested would enable Rwanda to implement the relevant provisions of the aforementioned Peace Agreement, to revive the economy and to rebuild and rehabilitate the various parts of the infrastructure which have been destroyed, with a view to ensuring the socio-economic rehabilitation of the country.

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/242
1 November 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

Forty-eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

THE NEED TO ADOPT EFFECTIVE MEASURES FOR THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO ARE VICTIMS OF ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING ARMED CONFLICTS

Letter dated 29 October 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to request, in my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an additional item of an important and urgent nature entitled "The need to adopt effective measures for the promotion and protection of the rights of children throughout the world who are victims of especially difficult circumstances, including armed conflicts".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum is attached to this request (see annex).

In view of the important and urgent nature of this item, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States looks forward to receiving the support of Member States and requests that the item be considered by the Third Committee.

(Signed) Fernando REMIREZ de ESTENOZ
Permanent Representative of Cuba
to the United Nations
Chairman of the Group of Latin
American and Caribbean States

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

The members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States have proposed the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an additional priority item entitled "The need to adopt effective measures for the promotion and protection of the rights of children throughout the world who are victims of especially difficult circumstances, including armed conflicts".

It is clear that the situation of children in general, and particularly that of children in especially difficult circumstances, is quite alarming. The current international scene offers a wide range of tragic and extreme examples, such as the situation of children trapped in bloody wars.

The latest edition of the UNICEF State of the World's Children report indicates, among other equally distressing facts, that 200,000 children die each week from malnutrition and various curable diseases, while nearly 20 million are physically disabled, confined in refugee camps or homeless.

Yet this is not all, for, as the reports of the special rapporteurs to the Commission on Human Rights make clear, millions of children throughout the world are exploited as a source of cheap labour, while others are victims of trafficking in organs and exploited by child pornography and prostitution.

The progress achieved in the protection of children has been meagre and inadequate. The General Assembly does not include the situation of children as a whole in its sessional agenda. This oversight is difficult to justify when considering the social topics that are of concern to the international community.

It is this thinking that inspired the World Summit for Children, at which participants voiced the need to "give high priority to the rights of children, to their survival and to their protection and development. This will also ensure the well-being of all societies." (World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children, para. 19).

The urgency of this item needs no further explanation.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/243
5 November 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to request, pursuant to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of an additional item of an important and urgent character, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda". Owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General further requests that it be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

93-61476 (E) 051193

071193

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/244
12 November 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS MILITARY LIAISON TEAM IN CAMBODIA

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Secretary-General has the honour to request, pursuant to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of an additional item entitled: "Financing of the United Nations military liaison team in Cambodia".

2. Owing to the nature of the item, the Secretary-General further requests that it be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

93-62986 (E) 121193

141193

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/245
15 November 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Forty-eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

EMERGENCY ACTION TO FIGHT AGAINST LOCUST INFESTATION IN AFRICA

Letter dated 15 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the members of the Group of African States, I have the honour to refer to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and to request the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of an additional item entitled: "Emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I transmit to you herewith an explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution.

(Signed) Ramtane LAMAMRA
Permanent Representative of Algeria
to the United Nations
Chairman of the Group of the African States
for the month of November

Annex

Explanatory memorandum

1. The Economic and Social Council, by its resolution 1989/98 of 26 July 1989, adopted the international strategy for the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation, particularly in Africa, and this resolution was endorsed by the General Assembly in its decision 44/438 of 19 December 1989.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987, concerning an international decade for natural disaster reduction, identified locust infestations as being among the types of natural disasters to be covered by the decade. Similarly, in its resolutions 41/185 of 8 December 1986 and 43/203 of 20 December 1988, the General Assembly alerted the international community to the critical situation created by this plague in Africa.

3. Because of the exceptional gravity and real dangers of the locust infestation recorded in recent months in the Sahel-Maghreb region, experts from the Sahel and Maghreb countries and the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held a meeting at Tunis on 1 and 2 September 1993 which adopted an emergency plan of action (A/C.2/48/6, annex).

4. In light of the aggravation of the locust infestation, at an extraordinary meeting held at Algiers on 27 September 1993, the Ministers of Agriculture responsible for locust control in the countries of the Maghreb and of the Sahel and the representative of FAO endorsed the emergency plan of action prepared by the experts and called the attention of the international community to the potential dangers of this disaster and its economic, social and environmental consequences for the affected regions (A/48/552, annex).

5. Given the urgency of the situation and the threat that it currently poses to other regions of Africa, the Group of African States is of the view that a draft resolution must be placed before the Assembly in order to mobilize the international community and support the efforts being made by the affected countries in the fight against the locust infestation (see appendix).

6. Current data provided by FAO show that the situation is worsening, particularly in the Sahel region, and the potential hazards weigh heavily on the countries of the Maghreb and other regions of Africa.

7. It is essential that the General Assembly should act expeditiously on this matter in order to allow the relevant organs of the United Nations system and in particular FAO, whose General Conference is currently being held in Rome, to take all the necessary measures within their fields of specialization for the rapid implementation of the emergency plan of action.

APPENDIX

Draft resolution: Emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the international strategy for the fight against locust infestation, particularly in Africa, adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1989/98 of 26 July 1989 and endorsed by its decision 44/438 of 19 December 1989,

Further recalling its resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987 on an international decade for natural disaster reduction, which included locust infestations among the types of natural disasters to be covered by the decade,

Deeply concerned at the exceptional seriousness and real dangers of the current locust infestation in Africa and concerned at its resulting economic, social and environmental consequences, including the reduction of agricultural output and the displacement of affected populations,

Aware that current campaigns for locust control have so far been unable to put an end to the infestation, in particular because of the limited financial resources of the affected countries, and convinced that the fight against the plague, by virtue of its recurrent nature, requires increased and coordinated mobilization of appropriate human, scientific, technical, material and financial resources,

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture responsible for locust control of the countries of the Maghreb and of the Sahel, held at Algiers on 27 September 1993, 1/

1. Expresses its deep concern at the worsening locust infestation in Africa, especially in the Sahel and Maghreb regions, which threatens other regions of Africa, and reaffirms the need to accord high priority to locust control and eradication;

2. Notes with appreciation the efforts of the affected countries and expresses its gratitude to donor countries, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other competent institutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contain the locust infestation in Africa;

3. Calls upon the international community, particularly the developed countries and the United Nations system, to support fully the locust control activities undertaken at the national, subregional and regional levels by the affected countries;

1/ See A/48/552, annex.

4. Invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations speedily to implement the emergency plan adopted by the experts from the region at their meeting held at Tunis on 1 and 2 September 1993 2/ and to undertake the relevant complementary activities with a view to controlling the situation in the front-line countries;

5. Requests the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with the Secretary-General, to keep the situation under constant review and to organize a pledging conference as early as possible in the first quarter of 1994 with a view to mobilizing the necessary financial and other resources such as aircraft, appropriate chemicals and technical personnel to provide effective assistance to affected countries in their efforts to combat the locust infestation in Africa;

6. Further requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to submit to it at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

2/ See A/C.2/48/6.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/48/245*
16 November 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Forty-eighth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

EMERGENCY ACTION TO COMBAT LOCUST INFESTATION IN AFRICA

Letter dated 15 November 1993 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the members of the Group of African States, I have the honour to refer to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and to request the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of an additional item entitled "Emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, I transmit to you herewith an explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution.

(Signed) Ramtane LAMAMRA
Permanent Representative of Algeria
to the United Nations
Chairman of the Group of African States
for the month of November

* Reissued for technical reasons.

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. The Economic and Social Council, by its resolution 1989/98 of 26 July 1989, adopted the international strategy for the fight against locust and grasshopper infestation, particularly in Africa, and that resolution was endorsed by the General Assembly in its decision 44/438 of 19 December 1989.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987, concerning an international decade for natural disaster reduction, identified locust infestations as being among the types of natural disasters to be covered by the decade. Similarly, in its resolutions 41/185 of 8 December 1986 and 43/203 of 20 December 1988, the General Assembly alerted the international community to the critical situation created by the plague in Africa.

3. Because of the exceptional gravity and real dangers of the locust infestation recorded in recent months in the Sahel-Maghreb region, experts from the Sahel and Maghreb countries and the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held a meeting at Tunis on 1 and 2 September 1993, which adopted an emergency plan of action (A/C.2/48/6, annex).

4. In the light of the aggravation of the locust infestation, at an extraordinary meeting held at Algiers on 27 September 1993, the Ministers of Agriculture responsible for locust control in the countries of the Maghreb and of the Sahel and the representative of FAO endorsed the emergency plan of action prepared by the experts and called the attention of the international community to the potential dangers of the disaster and its economic, social and environmental consequences for the affected regions (A/48/552, annex).

5. Given the urgency of the situation and the threat that it currently poses to other regions of Africa, the Group of African States is of the view that a draft resolution must be placed before the Assembly in order to mobilize the international community and support the efforts being made by the affected countries in the fight against the locust infestation (see appendix).

6. Current date provided by FAO show that the situation is worsening, particularly in the Sahel region, and the potential hazards weigh heavily on the countries of the Maghreb and other regions of Africa.

7. It is essential that the General Assembly should act expeditiously on this matter in order to allow the relevant organs of the United Nations system and in particular FAO, whose General Conference is currently being held at Rome, to take all the necessary measures within their fields of specialization for the rapid implementation of the emergency plan of action.

APPENDIX

Draft resolution: Emergency action to combat locust infestation in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the international strategy for the fight against locust infestation, particularly in Africa, adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1989/98 of 26 July 1989 and endorsed by its decision 44/438 of 19 December 1989,

Further recalling its resolution 42/169 of 11 December 1987 on an international decade for natural disaster reduction, which included locust infestations among the types of natural disasters to be covered by the decade,

Deeply concerned at the exceptional seriousness and real dangers of the current locust infestation in Africa and concerned at its resulting economic, social and environmental consequences, including the reduction of agricultural output and the displacement of affected populations,

Aware that current campaigns for locust control have so far been unable to put an end to the infestation, in particular because of the limited financial resources of the affected countries, and convinced that the fight against the plague, by virtue of its recurrent nature, requires increased and coordinated mobilization of appropriate human, scientific, technical, material and financial resources,

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture responsible for locust control of the countries of the Maghreb and of the Sahel, held at Algiers on 27 September 1993, 1/

1. Expresses its deep concern at the worsening locust infestation in Africa, especially in the Sahel and Maghreb regions, which threatens other regions of Africa, and reaffirms the need to accord high priority to locust control and eradication;

2. Notes with appreciation the efforts of the affected countries and expresses its gratitude to donor countries, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other competent institutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contain the locust infestation in Africa;

3. Calls upon the international community, particularly the developed countries and the United Nations system, to support fully the locust control activities undertaken at the national, subregional and regional levels by the affected countries;

1/ See A/48/552, annex.

4. Invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations speedily to implement the emergency plan adopted by the experts from the region at their meeting held at Tunis on 1 and 2 September 1993 2/ and to undertake the relevant complementary activities with a view to controlling the situation in the front-line countries;

5. Requests the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with the Secretary-General, to keep the situation under constant review and to organize a pledging conference as early as possible in the first quarter of 1994 with a view to mobilizing the necessary financial and other resources such as aircraft, appropriate chemicals and technical personnel to provide effective assistance to affected countries in their efforts to combat the locust infestation in Africa;

6. Further requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to submit to it at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

2/ See A/C.2/48/6.